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15 August 1973

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MEMORANDUM FOR [REDACTED]

SUBJECT: NIS Chapter 56, Intelligence and Security

1. This memorandum will confirm previous conversations on the subject of the continuation of the publication of NIS Chapter 56.

2. As you know, at the USIB of 2 August 1973, Mr. John Kerry King, the Director of the NIS Program, presented his recommendations for phase-out of the NIS Program in accordance with previous instructions from the USIB. After a considerable amount of discussion, the recommendations were approved by the Board. The discussion centered around the regret of Board members, particularly of the State Department representative, over the discontinuance of the Program and the gap which it will leave in our intelligence data base. Dr. Cline made a very strong argument for retention of the Program. Mr. Colby, however, with Dr. Proctor's strong reinforcement, pointed out that in view of the manpower and budget cuts which the Agency faces he saw no alternative. The Basic Intelligence Fact Book will, however, continue to be published and NIS Surveys may be requisitioned until the existing supply is depleted. NIS publishes a reference aid every month which gives an inventory of available NIS publications.


3. Dr. Cline then said that the Department had found Chapter 56, which is prepared by the Agency, of particular value and since the Basic Fact Handbook is to be continued, he questioned if Chapter 56 could not also be continued. No specific response was made at the Board. After the meeting, however, I was asked to look into this by the EA/DDCI.

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4. As you know after discussing this with you, I talked to [REDACTED] relaying to him Dr. Cline's strong interest in the retention of Chapter 56 and your willingness and desire to see it continued. [REDACTED] said that he would approve providing we first examine whether or not any changes should be made in format or in periodicity of publication. I have relayed this information to Dr. Cline who has in turn sent a memorandum to the interested State Department components asking them for their comments. Likewise, you may wish to examine this subject and perhaps canvass the Area Divisions for their reactions.

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5. Once we have received yours and State Department's comments I shall draft a memorandum for the USIB to go through  to Mr. Colby to be tabled at the USIB for its approval. This will then constitute the charter for the continuance of Chapter 56.

6. If I can be of further assistance in this matter do not hesitate to call upon me.

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Chief
Intelligence Group/OPS